TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT

Tuesday, 13 December 2022
Last Updated Monday, 13 February 2023

On the afternoon of 13 December 2022, PAGASA participated in deliberations on what to do with all these plastic in our environment. The country now ranks highly among nations which contribute the most micro plastics into the oceans affecting the fish that we eat as well as used plastic polluting our solid waste. Chaired by Atty. Dilbert Quetulio/Secretary of the House Committee on Ecology, some 93 participants aired their views regarding Extended Producers Responsibility as the most doable approach in Plastic Waste Management without totally banning plastics in its many usage in the economy. Discussions ranged from the collection of used plastics (and resistance of the public to surrendering these)Â to determining non-environmentally acceptable products (NEAP) like plastic straws/stirrers, etc. to the social impact of toxins in waterways during recycling. Various stakeholders from the private/NGO & public sector gave their serious comments, suggestions & reservations. On board at this Meeting were PARMS' Crispian Lao (also a Commissioner at the National Solid Waste Management Commission), Marian Ledesma/Green Peace, Mario Estrada of AFMP, PCAP's very active Jeremiah Sebastian, PCFMI, Zero Waste Coalition, Mother Earth Foundation, et. al.

Prof. Dr. Fabian M. Dayrit, PhD., foremost chemist, environmental scientist representing the National Academy of Science & Technology (NAST) offered his concerns on the toxic substances that may poison our waterways if recycling is not done in accordance to standard operating and health procedures.

Â Â Henry Gaw, Pres.-Polystyrene Council of the Phils., as well as NSWMC Comm. Crispian Lao, has reservations about placing in the same law EPR together with the handling of SUPs (Single-Use Plastic).